

JUN-08-2007 FRI 03:16 PM exxonmobil

FAX NO. 281 834 0135

P. 08/09

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

Attorney Docket No.: 2004B032

JUN 08 2007

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS

The claims have been amended where appropriate to indicate that the Group VIII metal catalyst is palladium. This is the preferred metal catalyst, as set forth in the last sentence of paragraph [0030] of the specification.

It is believed there is no possibility of new matter.

USSN: 10/826,057

5 of 6

June 8, 2007

I:\Bp\ALAW\Prosecution\EMCC Prosecution\2004\2004D032\2004D032-US-2007Jun08-Response to 1st OA.DOC

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Attorney Docket No.: 2004B032

JUN 08 2007

REMARKS

Claim 1-30 are in the case.

The claims have been rejected as follows: Claims 1-15 and 18-23 as anticipated by Koch (U.S. 3,183,278); Claims 16-17, 24, 27 and 28 as anticipated by Nowack (U.S. 3,912,787); and Claims 25, 26, 29, and 30 as obvious over Nowack in view of Dunkel (U.S. 1,965,956).

None of the references suggest the use of a catalyst consisting of palladium to reduce naphthalene concentration in a naphthalene containing aromatic fluid, as set forth in the present claims. Therefore, none of these references of record, alone or in continuation, can fairly suggest the present invention.

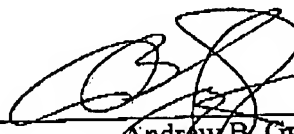
Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

It is believed that the present Application is now in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

June 8, 2007

Date



Andrew P. Griffis
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 36,336

ExxonMobil Chemical Co.
Law Technology
P.O. Box 2149
Baytown, Texas 77522-2149
Phone: 281-834-1886
Fax: 281-834-2495

USSN: 10/826,057

6 of 6

June 8, 2007

J:\Bpe\LAWP\Prosecution\EMOC Prosecution\2004\2004B032\2004B032-US-2007Jun08-Response to 1st OA.DOC